

6 17 10
19. Playground equipment according to claim 18 further comprising a bead mounted to the locking rings for covering a space between the locking rings and the stationary ring.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and removal of the grounds for rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 were in this application, claims 1-8 have been canceled and new claims 9-19 have been added.

Per the examiner's objection to the claims for failing to conform with current U.S. practice, all of the claims have been canceled and new claims 9-19 have been added, paying particular attention to removal of the grammatical and idiomatic errors. In addition, new claim 9 includes a limitation from claim 5, specifically the horizontal and vertical wheels, so as to place the application in condition for allowance. Also, in re-formulating the claims, it became apparent that the clarification of the various claim elements necessary to conform to U.S. format, identified several elements mixed in one dependent claim which were better separated into separate dependent claims. Nevertheless, all the claims are believed to be amply supported by the specification and drawings in the application as filed and no new matter is included by these amendments.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Diehl. Claim 9 which replaces claim 1, incorporates at least one first wheel rotatable about a horizontal axis and at least one second wheel rotatable about a vertical axis, the wheels disposed between the stationary circular ring and the revolvable circular ring to provide rolling engagement therebetween. As this limitation is not found in Diehl, new claims 9 and 11 are not anticipated by Diehl.

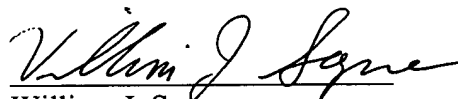
Claims 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Diehl.

However, there is no teaching, suggestion or incentive in Diehl for a utilization of the pair of wheels as described above and consequently, absent a teaching, suggestion or incentive for doing as the applicant has done, claims 2 and 4, now claims 10 and 12 are not rendered obvious thereby.

Claims 5-8 were indicated to be allowable, and with these amendments, all the newly presented claims are considered allowable over the prior art.

Based on the above amendments and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested. However, should the examiner believe that direct contact with the applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. Sapone
Registration No. 32,518
Attorney for Applicant(s)

COLEMAN SUDOL SAPONE, P.C.
714 Colorado Avenue
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06605-1601
Telephone No. (203) 366-3560
Facsimile No. (203) 335-6779